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general. If his conclusions work out according to his expectation he will have performed the very great service of moving anthropometry from the museum to the field. Geographers whose highest interest is in the movements of population will observe with peculiar satisfaction that Dr. Bean's method of study has availed to discover in the Philippines, both free and in easily dissociable relations with superior race types, man of a primitive type. It is not wholly surprising. No matter what the avenue along which research has been conducted in the region of which the Philippines forms the northeastern sea wall, we find ourselves brought to the necessity of regarding this area as containing somewhere a focus at which a human species arose. Students of culture have for some time had to face this problem, and it is within the last few months that a Negrito people (the Kubu) has been found by Volz in south Sumatra on that bottom plane, once considered inconceivable, where spiritual ideas and some rude conception of divinity have not yet dawned. The most recent philological examination directed upon this region is utterly meaningless if it does not point out a clear evolution of man-speech from animal-cry. The question of Pithecanthropus, not as yet definitely settled, arose in the same terrain. It is full of grave significance that Dr. Bean enjoyed for a day the opportunity to measure and to photograph a living man of the almost chinless Cro-Magnon type, palæolithic man persisting far beyond his epoch.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

The Glory of the Shia World. The Tale of a Pilgrimage. Translated and Edited from a Persian Manuscript by Major P. M. Sykes, C.M.G., assisted by Khan Bahadur Ahmad din Khan. xiv and 279 pp. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, 1910. \$3.50. 9 x 6.

The geographical interest of this narrative is in some regards slight. The author has crowned his life by an act of piety in making the pilgrimage to Khorasan, to the tomb of the great Imam of the Shiite sect of Mohammedans. That is not a long journey from his home in Kerman, the desert land traversed is not by any means unknown. The sum of his contribution to such knowledge is the plan of the mosque and precincts of Meshed, pleasantly illuminated by his comments wherein piety and humor are mixed. Nurullah Khan, the author of the manuscript, although space was grudged his name on the title-page, is a man of the transition. His grandfather was the famous Haji Baba, who was the first of Persians to carry the fame of the Shah to England, and Nurullah naïvely expresses his conviction that his grandfather must have declined the Garter at the English court, since he did not bring it home with him. Nurullah's youth was spent in Mahmud, where his father was provincial Governor until he came to his death in a salt-bog while pursuing Baluchi marauders. Thereafter he lived with his uncle, the revenue officer of Kerman, at first as an assistant in that profitable employment and eventually as successor to the appointment upon the death of his uncle. Persian to the core, he is yet acquainted with the existence of Europe and the New World, he knows that "Atlantic is not a city," he is at pains to explain many things for the benefit of Europeans who might read his book. It is that which makes the narrative of such value, a picture of Persian life by a man who goes out of his way to make things comprehensible to such as are unfamiliar with the ways of Iran. The mere journey to Meshed occupies but a third of the volume, the value of the work will be found to lie in its intimate revelation of Persian custom. Nurullah is something more than an official, although he is proud to have so profitable an

employment. He is a poet, he concedes willingly that he stands second to Firdausi in his art. He concedes that Persia is the best of all possible lands, that Persian courtesy is the pink of all politeness, that Persian achievement is superior to all deeds elsewhere in the world. In Persia the best is represented by Kerman. This is not the sublimity of impudence, it is the sublimity of belief based upon conviction. Nurullah does not prove any of his contentions, he states his belief in happy assurance that these are self-evident facts. It results that we have a quaint medley of braggadocio and simplicity, but throughout runs a most interesting account of Persian life as seen by a Persian willing to point out its beauties to the alien. The work is veritably a storehouse of information as to Persian customs, folk-lore and opinions. Unfortunately, the storehouse is locked, the absence of an index is now inexcusable. Happily for the reader, Nurullah lives far from the capital, Kerman is for him the heart of the world, it is only through the presence of an English physician that he has been led to set forth for the foreign reader his knowledge of a Persian life still uncorrupted by external ideas.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

EUROPE

Kulturgeographische Wanderungen im Koblenzer Verkehrsgebiet. Von Dr. R. Martiny. pp. 189-349, map and illustrations. Forschungen zur deutschen Landes- und Volkskunde herausgegeben von Dr. Fr. G. Hahn, Neunzehnter Band, Heft 3. Verlag von J. Engelhorn's Nachf., Stuttgart, 1911. Mk. 9.50. 9 x 6½.

Dr. Martiny, following the general scheme of these books, interprets the Coblenz trade district in its cultural development, showing the natural reasons which have partly influenced the location of its towns, its industrial establishments, its railroads and other highways, vineyards, fields, forests, etc., describing also the various directions in which the cultural life of the people has developed. The book contains an excellent folded map and is a careful and minute study in anthropogeography.

Guide to Italy and Sicily. Sixth Edition. cxxviii and 394 pp., 19 maps, 36 plans and indices. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, 1911. \$3.25. 6½ x 4½.

The sixth edition of this useful guide book will be welcome. It is a concise and handy volume which omits no really important sights of Italy, though careful not to confuse the tourist by diverting his attention to the insignificant. The needs of all kinds of tourists are kept in view and even cyclists will find considerable matter intended especially for them. The maps and plans, of course, add much to the helpfulness of the work.

POLAR

Polar Exploration. By William S. Bruce, LL.D., F.R.S.E. 254 pp., maps and index. Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1911. \$.75. 7 x 5.

This is not a history of Polar exploration but rather a book written for a wide public outlining the essential facts and problems of exploration in high latitudes. Dr. Bruce has had personal experience in nine Polar voyages and leadership in several of them. In this little volume he gives in a most readable manner the quintessence of his experience and observations. His topics as given in the ten chapter headings are:

Astronomical Features of the Polar Regions; The Polar Regions; Land Ice;